

REMARKS

In the Office Action mailed December 11, 2007, the Examiner rejected claims 1-25. By way of the foregoing amendments and the markings to show changes, Applicant has amended claims 1, 12, and 20. No new matter has been added, and support for the amendments can be found in the previously presented claims and paragraphs 0022, 0023, 0034, and 0035 of the U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2005/0200216. Claims 15 and 22 have been cancelled. Applicant believes that the new set of claims is patentable. The foregoing amendments are taken in the interest of expediting prosecution and there is no intention of surrendering any range of equivalents to which Applicant would otherwise be entitled in view of the prior art.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102

The Office Action rejected claims 1-4 and 6-25 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Leuthold et al. (US Patent No. 5,710,678). The claims as previously presented were not Anticipated by Leuthold. Leuthold does not teach a support member (ie. ball bearing) that is movable relative to the shaft (ie. rotates independently of the shaft). Support for this assertion is found in two different places in Leuthold. In Column 8, lines 12-14, Leuthold states, “**The ball 160 which is fixed to the end of the shaft** rests against an elastic shield fixed to the sleeve portion 80 of the journal bearing.” (emphasis added) Moreover, Leuthold states, “the ball 160 **affixed** to the end thereof by a retaining ring 170.” (Column 8, lines 44-45) (emphasis added) Because Leuthold teaches a support member fixed to the end of a shaft the support member cannot be movable relative to the shaft; therefore, Leuthold does not teach every element of the claims and the claims are not anticipated.

In the interest of expediting prosecution the Applicant has amended the claims to further distinguish over Leuthold. First and foremost, Leuthold does not teach blades, a recess, or DC communication circuitry as suggested in the Office Action. The Office Action did not put forth any facts to support the assertion that Leuthold teaches blades, a recess, or DC communication circuitry. Therefore, a prima facie case of anticipation has not been set forth in the office action. However, claims 1, 12, and 20 have been amended to add blades, a recess, DC communication circuitry, or all three; therefore, Leuthold does not teach every element listed in the independent claims. The claims as currently presented are not anticipated by Leuthold and the Applicant believes that the claims as currently presented are patentable.

The Office Action rejected claims 1, 5, and 12 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Slack et al. (GB 2083953 A). The claims as previously presented were not Anticipated by Slack. Slack does not teach a motor; Slack is a turbine for generating power. Thus, slack does not disclose a motor, and does not anticipate the claims.

In the interest of expediting prosecution the Applicant has amended the claims to further distinguish over Slack. Slack does not teach fan blades for creating air flow; Slack requires air flow to spin the impeller and turn the turbine. Therefore, the claims as currently amended further distinguish over Slack and the Applicant believes that the claims are patentable.

CONCLUSIONS

In view of Applicants' amendments and remarks, the Examiner's rejections are believed to be rendered moot. Accordingly, Applicants submit that the present application is in condition for allowance and requests that the Examiner pass the case to issue at the earliest convenience. Should the Examiner have any question or wish to further discuss this application, Applicant requests that the Examiner contact the undersigned at (248) 292-2920.

If for some reason Applicant has not requested a sufficient extension and/or have not paid a sufficient fee for this response and/or for the extension necessary to prevent the abandonment of this application, please consider this as a request for an extension for the required time period and/or authorization to charge our Deposit Account No. 50-1097 for any fee which may be due.

Respectfully submitted,

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Daniel P. Aleksynas
Registration No. 62,551
DOBRUSIN & THENNISCH PC
29 W. Lawrence Street
Suite 210
Pontiac, MI 48342
(248) 292-2920

Customer No. 25215